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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

RR CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT NEEDED;
RAIL DELIVERIES SLOWED

RAILROAD BUILDERS NEED NEW MACHINERY -- Moscow, Gudok, 11 Aug 50

The construction administrations of the Ministry of Transportation announce a competition for the best suggestions in the following fields:

1. Machinery and Devices for Unloading Bulk Materials and Earth From Rolling Stock and From Automobiles (trucks).

The existing removable devices for unloading earth and ballast from railroad flat cars have the following shortcomings in design: the triangular wooden blades installed alongside flatcars are little suitable because of insufficient durability; lengthwise chutes are easily blocked with clay and chunks of earth. Unloading by means of monorail plows is insufficiently reliable in operation, especially on curves. The use of bulldozer unloaders is also unreliable and causes damage to flatcar floors.

The mechanism or device proposed should permit the unloading of any type of earth or ballast from railroad flatcars (to both sides or to one side of the track), or from automobiles, in the minimum time on any type of track profile. The possibility of using flatcars or automobiles for other carrying without re-equipping should be remembered.

2. Machinery and Devices for Mechanized Digging of Small Excavations and Holes

Digging excavations for structures covering small areas on the plane (bridge supports, masts for catenary systems, cellars for small buildings, cisterns, etc.) with excavators or other highly productive machines is laborious and economically unprofitable. As a result, the operations indicated are done by hand even when there are large volumes of earth to be removed.

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A mechanism with an electric motor or internal-combustion engine is needed, which can effect the handling of earth in small excavations and which can also transport it to the surface or load it on existing transport machinery. The mechanism proposed should have a productivity of at least 3-5 cubic meters per hour and should have small dimensions.

3. Light Mobile Crane for Construction Railroad Structures

Loading and unloading operations are the largest and most labor-consuming on any construction. The use of the existing cranes mounted on caterpillar or automobile traction is economical when there are large and constant volumes of work.

A crane, easily moved with a truck over earth, with a capacity of 0.5 ton and an arm 4-6 meters in length and a lift of 4 meters, is needed. The crane should be able to revolve, and should operate on electricity or by its own motor.

4. Device for Unloading and Loading 25-Meter Rails Onto Flatcars

The existing designs of removable devices and cranes installed on railroad flatcars for loading and unloading rails require a considerable expenditure of labor and time for assembly and dismantling, and are heavy and cumbersome.

A light removable device for ordinary railroad flatcars and for gondola cars is needed for loading and unloading 25-meter rails at the rate of not more than one hour per pair of coupled cars. The devices proposed should permit the unloading of rails along the track and should guarantee safety.

The devices should be easily and quickly mounted and dismantled with a minimum expenditure of time and labor.

5. Standard Dismountable Cement Plant

At present there is no dismountable cement plant for comparatively small volumes of work at one point.

For the construction of small and medium structures and houses having 500-1,500 cubic meters of concrete laying, a dismountable cement plant is needed. The plant should have a productivity of up to 100 cubic meters per day.

All processes in the plant should be mechanized. The plant should be easily assembled and dismantled and capable of being carried on automobiles. The plant should be designed with a service life of 5 years and should be adapted for work in both summer and winter.

6. Machinery and Devices for Mechanized Operations in Handling Earth Thrown out by Blasting

Handling the pile of earth formed by blasting with a dragline moving in the area of the pile is difficult because of the weakness of the earth crumbled by the explosion.

In the excavation itself the considerable unevennesses formed after the explosion also present an obstacle to automobile transport and other machinery.

High-speed economical methods of mechanized operations are needed to remove from excavations earth remaining after blasting. The machinery and devices should permit the gathering and removal of earth of all types, including rocky earths.

One first prize of 5,000 rubles and two second prizes of 3,000 rubles have been established for each field. The competition closes 31 December 1950.

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RR MINISTRY SLOWS RAIL DELIVERIES -- Moscow, Izvestiya, 24 Aug 50

In preparing for winter, some plants cannot finish the construction of sidings because the Ministry of Transportation is holding up the delivery of railroad rails used on main-line railroads.

"SO" LOCOMOTIVES FOR VOLGA POWER PROJECTS -- Kiev, Pravda Ukrainy, 23 Sep 50

The Locomotive Building Plant imeni Oktyabr'skaya Revolyutsiya in Voroshilovgrad has received an order for four series SO locomotives for the Volga electric power construction projects.

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